GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:907
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2003
FIXATION OF MSP FOR FRUITS
ANADI CHARAN SAHU

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that the middlemen have created havoc for the fruit growers;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to regulate price by fixing Minimum SupportPrice (MSP) in line with the Coir Board or Coconut Board for specific fruits produced in India; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a)to(c): The Government is aware about the involvement of middlemen in the marketing offruits in the country. Ordinarily, only those commodities are covered under Minimum SupportPrice (MSP) which are(i) non-perishable in nature (ii) items of mass consumption (iii) do not have widely varying cost of production and (iv) widely grown with large area of cultivation. Since fruits do not fulfill the above criteria, they are not covered under MSP. However, to protect the interests of fruits growers from distress sale in the event of glut, fruits are covered under Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) based on specific request from the State Governments.